

Keeping CW as a requirement for any class of Amateur Radio Service license serves no useful purpose other than keeping CW for the sake of keeping CW. The armed forces and maritime communications has long done away with CW as a requirement for its communicators. SPECOPS and intel worlds retain CW skills and capability. Hams are neither. We need to attract young forward thinking people into our hobby. Implementation of this proposal would not contribute to that goal. At this point, I can't say there is a value added to making all Technicians take the General examination. I would say totally deleting the CW requirement would be in the best interest of the hobby and contribute more to emergency management/public safety agencies needing assistance with emergency communications. I can see the logic for taking the General exam, but how do you break out the Technicians who took the more stringent exams than those who did not? It would probably be better from a business stand point to have a one time automatic upgrade and then implement a more stringent testing procedure.

Respectfully,

s/Monte Simpson

Monte L. Simpson, K2MLS